W HAMPSHIRE
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REPORTS

OF THE

SELECTMEN

AND OTHER

TOWN OFFICERS

— OF —

LEMPSTER

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING FEB. 15, 1905.

NEWPORT, N. H.:
BARTON & WHEELER,
PRINTERS.

DEPENDABLE DRUG STORE

..GOODS..

Every drug store article that we sell is of dependable quality and will give the purchaser complete satisfaction.

We know that our customers want drug store goods which they can rely on absolutely and we make it our business to supply them with just that kind and no other.

F. E. LOVELL, Ph. G.,

NEWPORT, N. H.

GEO. A. SCRIBNER,

House Furnishing !

Wheeler and Wilson Sewing Machines, Upholstering,
Sterling Ranges, West Shore Ranges,
Columbia Graphophones, Telephones.

Electric Door Bells, Batteries, Gas Ignition Dynamos for sale and repaired.

BELOW THE BRIDGE, - - - NEWPORT, N. H.

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1905

REPORTS

OF THE

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— OF —

LEMPSTER

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING FEB. 15, 1905.

NEWPORT, N. H.:
BARTON & WHEELER,
PRINTERS.

Statement

Taxes assessed April 1, 1904,	$3,743.86
State tax, 1904,	162.00
County tax, 1904,	442.96
Town charges,	1,700.00
Highways and bridges,	800.00
School money required by law,	324.00
Extra school money,	175.00
School repair money,	100.00
Money raised on seats,	10.52
Town library,	19.50

Rate of taxation $2.32 on $100.

INVOICE TAKEN APRIL 1, 1904.

Polls,	112,	$11,200.00
Horses,	179,	9,154.00
Oxen,	22,	1,164.00
Cows,	273,	6,074.00
Other neat stock,	99,	1,640.00
Sheep,	119,	292.00
Goats,	11,	60.00
Stock in banks,		500.00
Stock in trade,		4,110.00
Money on hand or on deposit,		1,800.00
Mills and machinery,		3,580.00
Real estate,		121,470.00
		$161,044.00

Treasurer's Report

RECEIPTS.

Cash in hands of treasurer Feb. 15, 1904,	$1,076.70
Borrowed of Elizabeth Town,	21.32
Received of collector, 1899,	14.00
" " 1901,	8.14
" " 1902,	35.81
" " 1903,	433.16
" " 1904,	3,583.89
Received of town clerk, dog licenses,	55.20
Received from state, bounty on hedgehogs,	91.50
Railroad tax,	21.56
Literary fund,	44.55
Proportion state school fund,	142.00
Savings bank tax,	116.17
Received of selectmen, interest on above tax bills,	20.41
Rent on school land,	12.35
	$5,676.76

DISBURSEMENTS.

Miscellaneous,	$1,178.83
Labor on highway,	255.15
Breaking roads,	345.39
Town officers,	346.15
Support of schools,	920.25
Highway receipts,	464.44
Notes taken up,	1,356.68
	$4,866.87
Cash in hands of treasurer Feb. 15, 1905,	809.89
	$5,676.76

Selectmen's Report

DISBURSEMENTS.

TOWN OFFICERS.

ORDER		
6	J. W. Hardwick, services as selectman, 1903,	$54.00
51	A. W. Welch, town clerk,	25.00
63	S. A. Makepeace, moderator, spring of 1904,	2.00
68	J. Frank Moore, supervisor,	5.00
74	L. A. Noyes, supervisor, 1904,	6.00
76	" board of health,	1.00
102	W. W. Moody, sexton,	22.00
103	" ballot clerk,	2.00
104	" janitor,	5.00
107	H. D. Nichols, member of school board,	20.00
110	G. W. Hurd, board of health,	1.65
122	E. E. Hurd, tax collector,	28.00
123	" ballot inspector,	2.00
128	C. E. Allen, ballot inspector,	2.00
139	W. R. Haydock, truant officer,	5.00
146	Jennie L. Olmstead, school board,	25.00
144	C. W. Sabine, ballot inspector, 1902, 1904,	4.00
146	H. L. Thompson, selectman,	40.00
156	H. S. Hooper, supervisor,	6.00
158	Geo. Purmort, selectman,	31.00
159	I. H. Hodgman, selectman,	30.00
162	A. W. Welch, district clerk,	2.50
166	Hiram Parker, town treasurer,	15.00
167	" district treasurer,	3.00
171	L. A. Purmort, school board,	5.00
173	J. F. Wheeler, auditor,	2.00
173	H. D. Nichols, auditor,	2.00
		$346.15

MISCELLANEOUS.

1	K. U. A., tuition,	$11.00
4	Elihu Russell,	2.25
12	Entertainment of selectmen,	3.50
13	K. U. A., tuition,	11.00
14	Edson C. Eastman, books,	10.14
15	H. L. Thompson, bounty on hedgehogs,	40.00
16	" labor D. S. Honey cemetery lot,	3.60
17	H. D. Nichols, bridge plank,	24.00
19	E. A. Russell, keeping tramps,	.75
20	J. L. Tandy, decoration,	10.00
21	School board, supplies,	2.59
22	F. A. Barton, entertainment of selectmen,	4.25
26	H. L. Thompson, repairs on scraper,	9.10
32	" bounty on hedgehogs,	8.75
36	School board, supplies,	22.80
37	" "	17.20
38	C. A. Parker, labor and material, hearse house,	50.66
43	E. L. Lovejoy, repairing window old town hall,	2.50
44	H. L. Thompson, " "	1.25
45	Barton & Wheeler, printing reports,	26.50
46	F. W. Delva, labor and timber,	9.50
47	" lumber for hearse house,	22.59
48	C. A. Parker, lumber and labor on old town hall,	9.70
49	Hiram Parker, glass for old town hall,	2.00
50	H. L. Thompson, bounty on hedgehogs,	10.00
52	F. W. Delva, plank 1903,	7.20
54	H. L. Thompson, bounty on hedgehogs,	15.00
55	W. W. Welch, mowing cemetery,	10.00
56	George Noyes, damage on highway,	1.38
57	Silsby & Johnson, tile pipe,	6.40
58.	A. L. Benway, damage on highway,	2.25
61	W. A. Putnam, bridge plank,	1.76
62	E. A. Russell, keeping tramps,	.75
66	K. U. A., tuition, fall term,	16.00

71	A. K. Hodgman, freight on tile pipe, 1903,	$ 1.20
73	William Stowell, timber and gravel,	4.90
75	L. A. Noyes, check lists,	3.50
77	J. F. Wheeler, boards and repairs on snow roller,	2.75
78	" bridge plank,	8.70
79	Frank B. Davis, "	3.20
81	" water tub,	1.50
82	J. L. Tandy, gravel,	1.00
83	I. A. Fellows,	2.75
84	Mary F. Bruce, two cords of wood,	8.00
86	State tax 1904,	162.00
87	County tax,	442.96
88	H. L. Thompson, bounty on hedgehogs,	17.75
89	O. G. Eastman, keeping tramps,	2.25
91	C. M. Quimby, water tub,	1.50
93	" gravel,	2.80
94	Ira Colby, legal advice on bridge case,	17.00
95	F. A. Barton, expense on bridge case,	7.50
96	H. L. Thompson and others, expense on bridge case,	23.25
99	F. P. Jones, returning births and deaths,	.75
101	W. E. Clark, " "	1.75
109	H. D. Nichols, bridge plank,	2.34
131	Mary F. Bruce, entertainment of town officers,	1.40
138	Library trustees,	19.50
147	School board, supplies,	26.93
155	A. L. Benway, damage on highway,	2.25
163	George Lewis, tuition,	24.00
165	J. F. Wheeler, housing snow roller,	2.00
174	F. A. Barton, entertainment of town officers,	3.50
172	E. E. Hurd, expense selling land,	2.66
164	W. A. Bowen, putting up two guide boards,	1.00
		$1,178.83

LABOR ON HIGHWAYS.

24	O. G. Eastman,	$10.24
25	C. H. Strickland,	3.90
27	I. H. Hodgman,	9.00
28	"	25.05
29	George Gassett,	9.90
30	W. D. Thurber,	16.80
33	Milan Noyes,	2.25
34	G. A. Willard,	7.30
35	C. M. Quimby,	17.85
40	L. F. Pollard,	9.82
41	H. S. Pollard,	9.82
42	F. G. Pollard,	9.00
53	A. K. Hodgman,	9.00
59	Herman Moody,	9.23
60	W. A. Putnam,	1.57
64.	C. H. Pitkin,	9.00
65	Milan Noyes,	6.30
67	F. Newton,	6.00
69	A. K. Hodgman,	3.30
70	C. C. Hodgman,	1.95
72	A. W. Welch,	18.00
80	F. B. Davis,	3.15
85	I. H. Hodgman,	12.75
92	C. M. Quimby,	10.50
97	F. A. Barton,	1.05
105	H. D. Nichols,	15.15
149	A. L. Benway,	10.50
153	L. C. Booth,	6.75
		$255.13

BREAKING ROADS SPRING 1904.

2	O. G. Eastman,	$ 1.50
3	H. L. Thompson,	1.30
5	W. S. Kempton,	4.05

7	George Tandy,	$ 1.80
8	H. S. Pollard,	1.50
9.	Chester Pinsin,	3.37
10	William Gee,	1.50
11	H. M. Bingham,	1.12
18.	G. A. Willard,	3.15
31	W. D. Thurber,	2.40
89	O. C. Huntley,	7.35
90	George Reardon,	4.50
98	L. A. Purmort,	7.80
100	Milan Noyes,	11.10
106	H. D. Nichols,	9.75
108	Wm. T. Thissell,	1.05
111	L. D. Moody,	1.35
112	W. P. Hodgman,	4.05
113	"	13.20
114	F. B. Davis,	10.20
115	H. C. Vigneau,	2.10
116	H. M. Bingham,	2.62
118	H. Moody,	13.28
119	C. A. Cragin,	4.80
120	H. W. Mason,	1.20
121	A. B. George,	.97
124	A. A. Gee,	4.80
125	H. Snape,	.90
126	A. K. Hodgman,	1.95
127	C. E. Allen,	1.65
129	G. H. Straw,	4.20
130	C. H. Gile,	5.55
132	W. M. Davis,	.90
133	L. A. Noyes,	3.00
134	W. S. Kempton,	13.65
135	O. C. Huntley,	30.30
136	H. S. Pollard,	16.35
137	E. E. Hurd,	11.10

140 E. S. Millen,	$ 3.60
141 O G. Eastman,	8.55
143 F. E. Booth,	22.35

BREAKING ROADS 1904-1905.

145 C. H. Pitkin,	10.95
148 J. F. Wheeler, in districts 1 and 2,	30.00
150 A. L. Benway,	9.00
151 W. D. Thurber,	5.25
152 L. C. Booth,	3.90
154 C. M. Quimby,	13.43
157 H. S. Hooper,	8.25
160 I. H. Hodgman,	18.75
	$345.39

HIGHWAY RECEIPTS.

A. A. Gee,	$ 1.95
H. L. Thompson,	1.35
W. D. Thurber,	1.50
John O'Brien,	9.75
J. L. Tandy,	1.05
F. B. Davis,	16.50
E. W. Bartlett,	.75
G. H. Straw,	7.20
C. M. Thornton,	1.65
Herman Moody,	2.25
W. W. Moody,	5.25
W. S. Kempton,	11.55
H. L. Thompson,	10.65
J. F. Wheeler,	18.00
J. F. Wheeler,	6.00
Wm. Stowell,	7.50
F. A. Reed,	14.06
F. W. Huntoon,	6.02
F. J. Straw,	2.55

C. W. Sabine,	$ 24.62
F. E. Booth,	11.98
F. E. Booth,	1.95
W. D. Thurber,	9.00
Gile and Perkins,	8.70
F. A. Barton,	11.60
C. A. Cragin,	.60
L. A. Purmort,	22.42
R. H. Morgan,	28.42
R. H. Morgan,	1.80
L. A. Noyes,	5.55
A. B. George,	5.82
A. W. Welch,	3.75
W. W. Welch,	3.00
F. E. Straw,	.75
F. J. Straw,	6.60
A. W. Welch,	4.50
W. A. Horton,	2.70
A. W. Welch,	3.00
H. LaFrance,	2.50
O. G. Eastman,	.75
Leon George,	4.50
G. H. Straw,	4.05
Wm. Gee,	.75
Wm. Gee,	3.00
Geo. Quimby,	4.85
Geo. Quimby,	1.90
Geo. Quimby,	3.60
H. Bingham,	2.70
H. Vigneau,	9.00
C. H. Pitkin,	36.75
M. Allen,	11.17
H. Moody,	3.00
G. A. Willard,	.70
W. D. Thurber,	10.20

E. S. LaBombard,	$ 4.50
W. D. Thurber,	2.55
W. D. Thurber,	1.50
W. P. Hodgman,	6.45
E. E. Howe,	14.88
E. E. Howe,	4.65
E. E. Hurd,	15.30
F. E. Booth,	1.60
W. D. Thurber,	2.70
Geo. Gassett,	2.85
Wm. Millen,	1.50
W. D. Thurber,	6.75
J. F. Wheeler,	12.00
F. E. Booth,	5.40
	$464.44

INDORSEMENTS AND NOTES TAKEN UP.

ORDER NO.		
23	Elizabeth Town,	$21.32
117	George W. Hurd, interest,	4.50
176	George W. Hurd, note taken up,	150.00
175	Huldah W. Glidden, notes and interest,	742.87
177	A. Noyes & Son, notes and interest,	228.24
178	Wm. Gee, notes and interest,	209.75
		$1,356.68

Report of Tax Collector

Tax assessed 1904,		$3,743.86
Amount tax collected,	$3,583.89	
" abated,	30.14	
" uncollected Feb. 15, 1905,		$129.83
Interest paid on above bill,		1.80
Remaining on tax bill of 1903, Feb. 15, 1904,		$481.99
Amount tax collected,	$433.16	
" abated,	45.93	
" uncollected Feb. 15, 1905,	2.90	
		$481.99
Interest paid on above bill,		12.58
The uncollected amount on the above bill is a tax sold to the town.		
Remaining on tax bill of 1902, Feb. 15, 1904,		$46.80
Amount tax collected,	$35.81	
" abated,	10.99	
		$46.80
Interest paid on above bill,		3.26
Remaining on tax bill of 1901, Feb. 15, 1904,		$8.14
Amount tax collected,		8.14
Interest paid on above bill,		1.21
Remaining on tax bill of 1899, Feb 15, 1904,		$14.00
Amount tax collected,		14.00
Interest paid on above bill,		1.56

ELBERT E. HURD, Collector.

NOTES AGAINST THE TOWN.

Universalist Society,	$ 650.00
Harriet M. Butler,	1,909.00
Mrs. Charles M. Booth,	100.00
Elizabeth Town,	21.32
Minerva Libbey,	40.00
	$2,720.32
Interest on above notes,	207.57
Honey fund,	300.00
Hosley fund,	300.00
	$3,527.89

ASSETS FEB. 15, 1905.

In hands of treasurer,	$809.87
Due from E. E. Hurd, collector, 1904,	139.83
" " 1903,	2.90
	$952.60
Net debt of town Feb. 15, 1904,	$3,114.41
Net debt of town Feb. 15, 1905,	2,575.29
Decrease of debt,	$539.12

H. L. THOMPSON, } Selectmen of
G. H. PURMORT, } Lempster.

We have examined the accounts of the Selectmen, Treasurer and Collector, and find them correct.

JOHN F. WHEELER, }
HERBERT D. NICHOLS, } Auditors.

Report of the Town Clerk

A. W. Welch, Town Clerk, in account with the town on dog licenses:

June 1st, 23 male dogs at $2.00,	$46.00
" 2 female dogs at $5.00,	10.00
" 1 male dog 6 months,	1.00
	$57.00
Twenty-six license fees at .20,	5.20
	$51.80
Aug. 1st, 2 male dogs 9 months,	3.00
Nov. 1st, 1 male dog 6 months,	1.00
	$55.80
Three license fees at .20,	.60
Balance paid treasurer,	$55.20

Respectfully submitted,

A. W. WELCH, Town Clerk.

Feb. 15, 1905.

Librarian's Report

The Lempster Public Library has been more generally patronized than in the preceding years, over six hundred and fifty volumes being loaned.

I hope that during the year to come the weekly number of books given out will be far greater than heretofore.

The library is as well supplied with books, magazines and periodicals as any in our rural towns, with few exceptions.

I wish that a more general use of them be made in the future. As the town did not appropriate any more money than that required by law the past year, the trustees were unable to

purchase new books. While it is wise that due economy be observed in all matters appertaining to the interests of the town, I feel that money used in purchasing new books each year is well invested, and trust the town will appropriate sufficient funds for that purpose in the future.

The following is a condensed list of books, magazines, etc., owned by the town:

930 volumes of general literature purchased by the trustees.
10 volumes of the Encyclopædia Britannica.
32 volumes of State Reports.
4 years' issue of Harper's Magazine.
1 year's issue of Everybody's Magazine.

The following magazines and periodicals have been most kindly donated, viz:—

4 years' issue of The Youth's Companion, by Mr. J. W. Hardwick.
4 years' issue of Munsey's Magazine and 3 years' issue of the Evening Mail, by Mr. George Frink of Springfield, Mass.
2 years' issue of the Outlook, and also the Cosmopolitan, by Mr. Arthur W. Welch.
The Illustrated Tribune and The Sunday Magazine, by Mr. Charles H. Jackson of New York.

The fines this year amounted to only 42 cents, of which 28 cents has been collected.

Respectfully submitted,

W. R. HAYDOCK, Librarian.

Charles Booth Fund

After paying taxes it leaves in my hands eighteen dollars.

HIRAM PARKER, Trustee.

Report of School Board

RECEIPTS

Cash in hands of treasurer Feb. 15, 1904,	$ 39.60	
School tax,	324.00	
Rent of school land,	22.76	
Asa Way fund, interest,	26.82	
Literary fund,	44.55	
Proportion of school fund, sec. 6, chap. 77, laws 1899,	142.00	
From town, per vote of district,	175.00	
From town, to replace money borrowed last year to pay for desks,	10.52	
Balance on dog licenses, 1903,	74.60	
Tuition from Sadie Lombard,	4.00	
Two school houses,	45.00	
		$908.85

EXPENDITURES

SALARIES OF TEACHERS

Susie B. Hurd, 30 weeks,	$180.00	
Florence M. Hooper, 30 weeks,	180.00	
Cora F. Booth, 30 weeks,	180.00	
Mary G. Ryan, 10 weeks,	60.00	
Kathryn A. Moran, 20 weeks,	120.00	
		$720.00

WOOD

H. D. Nichols, 4 cords,	$16.00
F. E. Booth, 2 cords,	8.00
George Purmort, 1-2 cord,	2.00
W. D. Thurber, 1 cord,	4.50
Congregational society, 2 cords, standing,	1.00
E. Russell, cutting same,	2.30
Don Hooper, sawing 1 cord,	.75

Ernest Whitcomb, sawing one cord,	$ .75	
Clifton Straw, drawing 1 cord,	.65	
Chauncey Quimby, drawing one cord,	.75	
		$36.70
CARRYING SCHOLARS		
Alice Straw, 30 weeks,	60.00	
Maggie Matheson, 7 weeks, 1 day,	7.20	
		$67.20
JANITOR WORK		
Fred Booth,	$1.00	
Willie Peasley,	1.00	
Frank Welch,	2.00	
Harold Nichols,	.50	
Ernest Whitcomb,	3.00	
Robert Pitkin,	2.00	
		$9.50
CLEANING SCHOOL ROOMS AND VAULTS		
Mrs. Whitcomb, two school rooms,	$2.50	
Ada L. Moody,	1.00	
L. D. Moody, 4 vaults,	4.00	
		$7.50
MISCELLANEOUS		
Edwin Roundy, banking school house,	$ .75	
E. Whitcomb, packing books,	.15	
J. L. Olmstead, 5 dippers,	.60	
H. Parker, brooms,	1.05	
" 1 pail,	.25	
" 3 lights of glass and nails,	.32	
" 10 lights glass,	.80	
H. Nichols, pail,	.25	
H. Nichols, cleaning stove pipe,	.50	
Robert Pitkin, sawing old boards,	.50	
Repairing schools houses,	10.31	
		$15.48
		$856.38
Balance in hands of treasurer,		$52.47

REPAIRING SCHOOL BUILDINGS

RECEIPTS

Order from town,	$100.00	
Amount taken from school money,	10.31	
		$110.31

EXPENDITURES

Robert T. Martin, paint, No. 5,	$16.10	
C. E. Mooney & Co., paper and border, No. 5,	2.25	
L. A. Purmort, paint, No. 2,	15.20	
E. Lovejoy, painting Nos. 2 and 5,	30.00	
C. H. Strickland, shingling No. 2,	.75	
J. F. Wheeler, lumber No. 4,	12.23	
C. A. Parker, work, nails, and money paid C. Strickland for labor,	12.83	
E. Lovejoy, paint and labor No. 4,	19.00	
H. Parker, 1 gal. oil,	.65	
H. D. Nichols, 2 gals. oil,	1.30	
		$110.31

SUPPLY ACCOUNT (TOWN)

RECEIPTS

Orders from town,	$69.44	
Money left from last year,	1.10	
		$70.54

EXPENDITURES

E. E. Babb & Co., supplies,	$17.12
" "	8.33
R. E. Lane, orders, warrants, etc.,	.78
Ginn & Co., grammars and geographies,	22.80
Leavenworth & Green, maps,	8.00

Houghton, Mifflin & Co., civil government,	$ 2.80	
Ginn & Co., arithmetics and algebras,	8.12	
Express and freight,	2.59	
		$70.54

HERBERT D. NICHOLS, } School Board
L. A. PURMORT, } of
JENNIE L. OLMSTEAD, } Lempster.

I, the undersigned, have examined the financial statements of the school board and treasurer of the Lempster town school district and find them correctly cast with proper vouchers therefor.

ARTHUR W. WELCH, Auditor.

Lempster, Feb. 15, 1905.

Library Trustees' Report

RECEIPTS

Cash on hand, 1904,	$14.88	
Cash received from fines,	.28	
Cash received, town,	19.50	
		$34.66

DISBURSEMENTS

Paid for freight on books,	$ .40	
" one-half cord of wood,	2.50	
" carrying wood up-stairs,	.50	
" new lamps, oil, glass, etc.,	3.97	
" magazine,	1.00	
" salary of librarian,	15.00	
		$23.37
Cash on hand,		$11.29

W. R. HAYDOCK, } Library
E. E. HURD, } Trustees.

Statistical Table

No. of Division	Terms--1 sum., 2 fall, 3 win	Teachers.	Wages of teacher per mo.	Length of school in weeks	Whole No. of Pupils	Average No. of Pupils	Per Cent. of Attendance	Perfect Attendance	No. of Tardinesses	No. visits by School Board	No of visits by others	No. in Reading	No. in Spelling	No. in Arithmetic	No. in Writing.	No. in Geography	No. in Grammar	No. in Algebra	No. in History	No. in Hygiene	No. in Composition	No. in Book-keeping	No. in Vocal Music	No. in Civil Government
	1	Cora F. Booth		10	16	15	.91	6	0	2	18	16	16	15	15	11	11		2		8			
1	2	Susie B. Hurd		11	23	21	.9113	5	15	2	12	23	23	23	23	7	11	8	7	11		1		
	3	"		9	22	22	.8898	3	34	2	21	22	22	16	22	7	6	8	11	11				
	1	Susie B, Hurd		10	15	14	.9894	10	0	4	8	15	15	13	15	13	13	6	6				15	
2	2	Cora F. Booth		11	8	6	.96	2	0	1	5	8	8	6	8	6	6		4					
	3	"	$24	9	7	6	.861	1	2	1	3	7	7	7	7	6	6		5					
	1	Florence M. Hooper		10	21	20	9295	5	24	1	25	21	21	17	20	21	11	3	11					
4	2	"		11	19	17	.8234	3	15	2	17	17	19	16	19	9	12	2	12	7				
	3	"		9	13	12	.8878	6	16	0	3	12	13	13	13	13	8	1	8	5				
	1	Mary G. Ryan		10	13	12	.985	8	1	4	33	13	13	13	13	10	10	4	5				13	
5	2	Kathryn A. Moran		10	12	10	.8909	2	9	2	10	12	8	12	12	4	6	2	5		6		12	
	3	"		10	9	8	.9576	6	0	2	17	9	9	9	9	4	6	4					9	4

General Remarks

Another school year has gone, and it is well for us all now at its close to look back over the work. If there have been things which please us, let us be encouraged by them; and if we find mistakes, let us try to make the future profit by those errors.

Taken as a whole our schools have certainly been a decided success, although they are still below what we sometime hope to see them.

The statistical table, on another page, shows a high percentage of attendance in all the schools —remarkably high considering the very severe weather during the winter term. A great deal of interest on the part of both parents and pupils is manifested in this way.

At the union examination in the summer, at East Lempster, every scholar in town was present except one. A goodly number of parents and friends were there also, and many more would have been had a severe shower not prevented. This, too, showed much interest on the part of all. We believe it is a good plan for the schools to all come together in this way once a year at least. It must stimulate both teachers and scholars to do better work. If teachers would follow more closely the "course of study" marked out two years ago these examinations would be much easier to arrange.

It may be difficult to see much improvement in looking back one year, but if we compare our schools of today, and the standing of our scholars, with the schools and scholars of even twenty-five or thirty years ago, we can see a vast improvement. Of course we mean to compare them as a whole. We can all pick out brilliant pupils whom we have known in the past, and can find dull ones who do not do well in our schools now, but the old-time methods should not be praised for the one or the school of today blamed for the other. Given two children of the same mental calibre and we believe it is no exaggeration to say that one twelve years old who is attending our

schools now, would be as far advanced as one of fifteen or sixteen who attended the schools of a generation ago. One reason is because better books are used and because all scholars have the same text-books. Another reason is because we have more weeks of schooling. For the last three years every child in town of school age has had the privilege of attending school thirty weeks, whereas years ago we think no district had over twenty weeks and some not more than twelve. Another great reason is that we have *better teachers* as a general thing.

Every year it becomes more clear how much might be accomplished if three or four of our adjoining towns would unite with this one and hire a superintendent. One who could spend his whole time in marking out the work the classes ought to do in the different schools, and in *seeing that that work was done.* Then so much time would not be wasted by teachers every term in finding out where each child should be placed in his studies. This would be especially beneficial where teachers are changed often, as they necessarily are in towns like this. A superintendent would be a great help in selecting teachers; also a great help to a young teacher, particularly one who has not had any special training for the work.

Better training is demanded in all lines of business, and surely those who are to teach little children should be well equipped for their work—physically, mentally, morally and socially. We think that it would be better to shorten the schools than to employ a lower grade of teachers, if the choice ever became necessary.

A vague idea seems to prevail among many that the public schools teach too many fancy things; that there are too many "fads" and "frills" in the curriculum; and that what are known as the essentials—reading, writing, arithmetic and spelling—have fallen somewhat into disuse. By constant reiteration this criticism has gained standing among some people, but it cannot be fairly applied to our schools.

The nimble critic who says: "Give the children a thorough

knowledge of the three R's and cut out the rest," is just a trifle hasty, and speaks either without thought or care. He manifests an imperfect appreciation of the purpose of education. There are some things taught which are useful, though not essential. For example, geography, drawing, physiology, history and music. These may be "fads" in the eyes of some people, but they certainly have a great value in supplementing the so-called essentials. They relieve the course of study of narrowness and give enjoyment to the school life.

We have not had so much money this year (aside from the amount received for two schoolhouses) to spend for schools as last year—nearly a hundred dollars less. It has only been by cutting down all possible expenses that we have been able to run the schools thirty weeks.

The number of scholars now in town is much less than last year. Fifteen more attended school last winter than have this winter.

New grammars, physiologies and spelling-books have replaced the old ones. We do not think many new books will be needed the coming year. Three schoolhouses have been painted and the "south" one partially clapboarded, new silled and otherwise repaired. The one at East Lempster has been painted and papered inside.

Thanking the citizens for their interest and co-operation, and wishing for a successful school year in 1905, we conclude our report.

HERBERT D. NICHOLS,
L. A. PURMORT,
JENNIE L. OLMSTEAD,
} School Board of Lempster.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births Registered in the Town of Lempster for the Year Ending Dec. 31, 1904.

Date 1904.	Name of Child.	Sex.	Con.	No. Col.	Name of Parents. Father.	Name of Parents. Mother.	Color	Residence of Parents.	Occupation. of Father.	Birthplace of Father.	Birthplace of Mother.
Jan. 4	Harriet	F	L	2	Willard Putnam	Catherine A Putnam	White	Lempster	Farmer	Unity	Acworth
Feb. 7	Jennie Florence	F	L	1	Elihu A. Russell	Mary F. Nichols		"	Laborer	Plainfield	Unity
May 7	Leon Joseph	M	L	1	Joseph N. LaCrosse	Elda A. LaBombard		"	"	Canada	Gordon Bay, Mich.
26	Ruth Merrill	F	L	1	William D. Thurber	Nina L. Hunt		"	Farmer	Lempster	Plainfield
Aug. 11		F	L	2	Carl W. Grant	Eva C. Cummings		"	"	Acworth	Cornish
Sept. 13	Jennie Randall	F	L	1	George F. Reardon	Gertrude M. Randall		"	"	Baltimore, Md.	Springfield, Vt.
Nov. 13	Briggs Thomas	M	L	1	Chas. H. Whitehouse	Sarah Bell Hapgood		"	"	Southfield, Me.	Standish, Me.
22	Helen Louise	F	L	1	Carl A. Parker	Mattie E. Morgan		"	Carpenter	Lempster	Ellenburg, N. Y.

Deaths Registered in the Town of Lempster for the Year Ending Dec. 31, 1904.

Date 1904.	Name of Deceased.	Age Y.	Age M.	Age D.	Place of Birth	Sex.	Color	Con.	Occupation	Birthplace Father.	Birthplace Mother.	Name of Father.	Maiden name of Mother.
May 19	Harriet S. Davis	51	7	4	Lempster	F	W	M	Housewife	Strafford, Me.	Lempster	Geo. W. Libbey	Minerva Eaton
Aug 17	Charles D. Stafford	77	3	28	Morristown Vt	M	W	M	Farmer	Plainfield	Cornish	Joseph Stafford	Sarah Cowles
Sept. 7	Sime'n H Makepeace	25	11		Lempster	M	W	S	Painter	Weymouth	Weathersfield	H A Makepeace	Sarah Egan
Dec. 11	Sumner Eaton	84	2		Sutton	M	W	W	Farmer			Nathaniel Eaton	Susan Philbrick

There were no marriages registered in Lempster in 1904.

I hereby certify that the above return is correct according to the best of my knowledge and belief:

ARTHUR W. WELCH, Town Clerk.

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